

Caistor

Caistor Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

R. J. R. MECREDY, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

and of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

V. G. HUDSON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.A.R.D.S.

for the Year

1953



COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PLANNING, HOUSING AND WATER:

(a) Public Health, Water and Planning Committee.

Chairman : Councillor E. D. TOPLISS, J.P.
Vice-Chairman : Councillor J. W. COUSINS.

(b) Housing.

Chairman : Councillor J. NICKERSON.
Vice-Chairman : Councillor Capt. J. CLAYTON.

(c) General Purposes Committee.

Chairman : Councillor J. NICKERSON.

(d) Market Rasen U.D. Joint Water Supply Committee.

Councillors	W. C. HALL .	}	Caistor R.D.
	W. B. LEANING		
	A. B. NAYLOR, J.P.		
Councillor	H. V. BECKETT, Market Rasen U.D.		

STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health :

R. J. R. MECREDY, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Telephone : Caistor 322.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

V. G. HUDSON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.A.R.D.S.
Caistor 322.

Sanitary Inspector and Deputy Surveyor :

F. J. ANDREWS, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.M.A.R.D.S.
Caistor 322.

Water Manager :

H. DIXON.
Caistor 323.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the CAISTOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1953.

Again it can be said that, judged by the general Death Rate and the Infantile Mortality Rate, the level of health in the Rural District remains relatively good. There seems to be some deterioration in the state of the teeth of children in the younger age group examined. All these children have been born since the war and therefore this alteration for the worse in their teeth may bear some relation to such changes as have taken place in the foods available with the cessation of rationing. Apart from this the general level of health amongst the children seen remains fairly good.

An epidemic of measles in the parish of Tealby and one of whooping cough in the parish of Stainton-le-Vale (R.A.F. Station, Binbrook) were responsible jointly for 84 notifications of infectious disease out of a total of 199.

The notification of a case of typhoid fever during the year led to the discovery of a carrier (since 1940) of the disease in a neighbouring parish.

In this connection I wish to pay tribute to the valuable help given in our investigations by Dr. Croll and the staff of the Public Health Laboratory, Lincoln.

Dr. Croll was also of great assistance in the prolonged examinations made into the purity of the water supply with especial regard to the need for chlorination.

Steady progress was made throughout the year in the extension of a piped water supply in the district and over 80% of all homes are now catered for. With the new main to Tealby all shortages in this village have been overcome.

Further extensions of mains to the Market Rasen and North and South Kelsey areas were planned for completion in 1954.

With the continuous extension in house building and the accompanying installation of modern sanitary services the disposal of sewage is becoming a very difficult problem. It is doubtful whether this can be solved without new sewage systems in some of the villages and the reconstruction of some of the older ones.

The practical education of our schoolchildren in hygienic habits remains the most obvious way in which we can hope for a progressive advance in the health of the community. Much remains to be done in this respect.

The volume of work which falls on the shoulders of our staff continues to increase. This has made it impossible to complete the housing survey.

Mr. V. G. Hudson has set a very high standard of work for the department and it is a pleasure to co-operate with him.

With many calls on his services at odd hours Mr. Dixon has again had a very full year. Mr. Andrews has done much useful work. To the staff of the Public Health Department as a whole I wish to again offer my thanks for their activities and help.

I wish also to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their active interest in the work of our Department.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

R. J. R. MECREDY,

Medical Officer of Health,
Caistor Rural District Council.

SECTION A — Vital and General Statistics

The estimated population, according to the Registrar General, was 14,050 ; a decrease of 110 on the previous year. Owing to the fluid nature of the population in the Stainton-le-Vale Parish (Binbrook R.A.F. Station) it is not possible to say whether the population of the Rural District as a whole is actually declining. In view of the small numbers involved the figures for the Infantile Mortality Rate cannot be considered of great value. The death rate shows a rise for the year but is still distinctly lower than that for the whole country.

The Birth rate remains at a considerably higher figure than that for England and Wales as a whole.

The Caistor Rural District comprises 40 parishes.

The population of the Stainton-le-Vale parish is estimated to be about 2,000.

The area of the Rural District is 119,992 acres.

Population 1921 census	12,670
Population 1931 census	12,648
Population 1951 census	14,310
Population 1953 (estimated)	14,050
Habitable houses (This excludes Service Premises)	4,140

The rateable value of the district on the 1st April, 1953, was £45,327 and the product of a penny rate was £183 6s. 8d. for the year ending 31st March, 1953.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1953

	For England and Wales
Total live births	228
Total illegitimate live births	8
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1952	19.1
Total deaths	147
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	9.4
Deaths of infants under one year of age ..	6
Deaths of infants under four weeks of age ..	5
Stillbirths	4
Deaths of illegitimate infants	1
Death rate of infants under one year of age	27.0
And of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	22.7
Deaths from all Malignant Neoplasms	26
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil
Deaths from Puerperal causes	Nil
Deaths from diseases of the heart and circulatory system	59

Deaths from malignant neoplasms show a considerable rise from the previous year while deaths from diseases of the heart and circulatory system show a fall.

Causes of Death in Caistor Rural District, 1952

			Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	.. ..	1	1
2.	" other forms	.. ..	3	0
3.	Syphilitic disease	.. ..	0	0
4.	Diphtheria	.. ..	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough	.. ..	0	0
6.	Meningococcal infections	.. ..	0	0
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	.. ..	0	0
8.	Measles	.. ..	0	0
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	.. ..	1	0
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	.. ..	0	2
11.	" " lung, bronchus	.. ..	3	0
12.	" " breast	.. ..	0	4
13.	" " uterus	.. ..	—	1
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	.. ..	12	5
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	.. ..	1	0
16.	Diabetes	.. ..	0	1
17.	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	.. ..	5	6
18.	Coronary disease, Angina	.. ..	7	5
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	.. ..	1	0
20.	Other heart disease	.. ..	11	19
21.	Other circulatory disease	.. ..	3	2
22.	Influenza	.. ..	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	.. ..	3	3
24.	Bronchitis	.. ..	3	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	.. ..	3	0
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	.. ..	1	0
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	.. ..	0	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	.. ..	0	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	.. ..	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	.. ..	—	0
31.	Congenital malformations	.. ..	0	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	.. ..	11	12
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	.. ..	6	0
34.	All other accidents	.. ..	1	2
35.	Suicide	.. ..	0	0
36.	Homicide and operations of war	.. ..	1	0
Total deaths			79	68
			—	147

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Services in the Area

1. *Mental Illness.* Treatment will be arranged in conjunction with the Regional Hospital Board. Supervision and aftercare will be carried out by specially trained workers employed by the County Council.

Mental Defectives. The County Council through the Regional Hospital Board will make arrangements for the institutional care of mental defectives.

The County Council remains responsible for the care and supervision of mental defectives in their own homes.

2. *Laboratory Facilities.* Examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln, and at Grimsby and District Hospital. Diphtheria Anti-toxin, Anti-Typhoid serum, and Scarlet Fever Streptococcus Anti-toxin are supplied by the District Council and from the above laboratories.

3. *Ambulance Facilities*, under National Fire Service. An ambulance can be obtained either through the patient's doctor or nurse, or in the event of an emergency by asking the telephone operator for the ambulance station.

Summary (for reference) of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available for the District

Nursing in the Home. All district nurses now come under the authority of the Lindsey County Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres. Treatment and aftercare of Tuberculosis cases now come under the Regional Hospital Board. School clinics remain under the care of the Lindsey County Council.

Hospitals, Isolation. All cases of infectious diseases and Smallpox cases are dealt with by the Regional Hospital Board.

Midwifery and Maternity Services. Administered by the Lindsey County Council.

Health Visitors. The duties of the above are performed through the Lindsey County Council.

Infant Life Protection. The duties of the above performed are through the Lindsey County Council.

Arrangements for Dental Cases, etc., by the Lindsey County Council.

Registration of Nursing Homes by the Lindsey County Council.

Orthopaedic Cases are now seen at the various hospital out-patients' departments and at some school clinics.

Home Help Service. Full-time and part-time home helps are now available in the district (Lindsey County Council).

School Clinics at Brigg and Market Rasen serve the needs of the Rural District.

SECTION C

Notifiable Diseases

It will be noted from the attached table that the total of notified diseases again shows a drop from the peak year of 1951.

39 notifications of measles were received in the month of April and of these 26 occurred in the parish of Tealby. No other parish was affected to this degree and 30 cases were notified in all in this one parish for the year.

54 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year in the Parish of Stainton-le-Vale. This indicates a very considerable epidemic in the R.A.F. Station at Binbrook where the total population is probably about 2,000. The first case was notified from Stainton-le-Vale Parish in February and the peak of the outbreak was reached with 18 cases in May.

Scarlet Fever showed a drop to half the number of cases notified in the previous year; the cases were again generally mild and were distributed widely throughout the Rural District.

Tuberculosis, in its various forms, shows a rise to 14 cases and it should also be noted that 5 deaths occurred. Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis, Dysentery and Food Poisoning were all unnotified during the year.

Typhoid Fever

The notification of a case of typhoid fever in September led to the discovery of an elderly typhoid carrier resident in a neighbouring parish.

Further investigation revealed that this man had been treated as a case of typhoid fever at the end of 1940 and that his son and wife had previously died in September and November, 1940 respectively.

The death certificates in these cases suggest that the cause of death was probably typhoid fever. Unfortunately there were no records in the files of the Rural District Council of the investigations made at the time into the history of this family.

It was discovered that crude sewage was being discharged into the stream from the house in which this carrier has lived. (This has now been dealt with).

The three known cases of typhoid fever which have occurred in the district since 1940 were notified in 1946, 1951 and 1953. They all lived or worked in proximity to this stream. Furthermore the Phage Type of *Salmonella Typhi* in last two cases was the same as that of the known carrier. There is no record of the Phage Type in the first case notified. There is, therefore some presumptive evidence that this carrier was responsible for these cases.

Initial immunisations against Diphtheria totalled 179 while 208 children had a "booster" dose. Primary vaccinations against smallpox were done in 75 cases and revaccinations in 21 cases. 41 children were immunised against Whooping Cough.

Notifiable Diseases	1952	1953	Average for 10 years 1942-51	Average for 10 years 1932-41	1901-10
Measles	161	77	140	—†	†
Whooping Cough ..	82	81	43	—†	†
Scarlet Fever ..	41	20	25.6	20.2	30
Diphtheria	0	0	3.2	3.7	23.7
Pneumonia	9	4	6.4	7.3	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	9	7.4	8.7	—
Tuberculosis of Glands, etc.	1	5	5.4	3.8	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	2	1.8	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	3.5	3.2	‡4.2
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0.6	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	1.0	0.6	0
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fever	0	1	0.3	0.7	4.8
Dysentery	5	0	1.8	0	0
Food Poisoning	1	0	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	305	199	240.0	—	—

† Not notifiable.

‡ 1903-12.

SECTION D

Water Supply

The following table shows the distribution of the water supply throughout the area. Only those parishes inset in the list are without a main piped water supply. The two marked with an asterisk are provided with an adequate private supply.

Walesby has a supply which varies in quantity and quality ; it is now being investigated.

It will be noted that over 80% of all houses in the Rural District are now on a piped water supply. This estimate does not include the R.A.F. Station in Stainton-le-Vale Parish.

Parish	No. of houses	No. sup.	Parish	No. of houses	No. sup.
Bigby ..	76	31	Brought forward ..	2402	2123
Bishop Norton ..	103	88	Osgodby ..	155	142
*Brocklesby ..	58	58	Owersby ..	109	109
Buslingthorpe ..	26	22	Rasen, Middle ..	363	313
Cabourne ..	33	30	Rasen, West ..	47	38
Caistor ..	499	495	Riby ..	70	47
Claxby ..	59	52	Rothwell ..	64	43
Glentham ..	106	87	Searby-cum-Owmby ..	53	46
Grasby ..	109	92	Sixhills ..	29	22
*Holton-le-Moor ..	59	58	Snitterby ..	72	53
Keelby ..	292	284	Somerby ..	23	12
Kelsey, North ..	266	213	Stainton-le-Vale ..	39	—
Kelsey, South ..	154	138	Swallow ..	66	36
Kirmond-le-Mire ..	19	11	Swinhope ..	23	6
Legsby ..	104	91	Tealby ..	193	163
Limber ..	124	102	Thoresway ..	56	—
Linwood ..	48	46	Thorganby ..	27	20
Lissington ..	59	58	Toft Newton ..	44	42
Nettleton ..	179	143	Waddingham ..	181	135
Normanby-le-Wold ..	29	24	Walesby ..	76	56
			Willingham, North ..	46	26
Carried forward	2402	2123	Totals ..	4140	3432

The sources of the main supply are :

(A) LOCAL

- (1) Caistor — well 100' deep in the chalk to the East of the town. Pumped to surface reservoir and then fed by gravity.
- (2) Nettleton — five upland surface springs at Nettleton Hill piped to a 5" delivery pipe and fed by gravity.
- (3) Otby — twelve springs in Otby Valley. Piped to 5" pipe, chlorinated at Walesby and fed by gravity.
- (4) Tealby — two springs in the Bully Hill area — piped to 5" delivery pipe and fed by gravity to Tealby and Market Rasen U.D. area.

(B) OUTSIDE SOURCES

- (1) Grimsby and Cleethorpes Joint Water Board — from Healing Wells to supply Keelby and Riby.
- (2) Grimsby and Cleethorpes Joint Water Board — from Beelsby to supply Caistor (part) Cuxwold, Swallow, Cabourne and Great Limber and Rothwell. Gravitated to Cabourne and then pumped to Caistor Top.
- (3) Louth R.D.C. — small supply to Swinhope (part only) and also separate supply to East Torrington, Legsby, North Willingham and Torrington.
- (4) Welton R.D.C. — small supply to Buslingthorpe only.
- (5) Brigg U.D.C. — small supply to area near to the U.D. boundary only.

In addition there is a joint connection between the Gainsborough R.D.C. and the Council at Glentham and the Caistor R.D.C. supply up to 12,000 gallons per day to the Horncastle R.D.C.

The chemical analysis for the supply are as follows :—

Details	Sources			
	Caistor	Nettleton	Otby	Tealby
Total Solids dried at 100°C. ..	256·0	264·0	306·0	372·0
Free Ammonia as N ..	0·002	0·024	0·002	0·002
Albumenoid Ammonia as N ..	0·010	0·050	0·006	0·010
Nitrogen as Nitrates	2·0	3·4	4·2	3·0
Nitrogen as Nitrites	nil	nil	nil	nil
Chlorides as Cl	21·0	21·5	21·0	24·0
Alkalinity expressed as CaCO ₃ ..	145·0	170·0	186·0	228·0
Oxygen absorbed from N/80 Permanagate in 4 hours ..	0·110	0·120	0·140	0·125
Calcium as CaO	106·0	116·2	139·0	154·0
Magnesium as MgO	2·8	3·4	7·0	7·2
Sulphates as SO ₄	35·7	37·0	38·0	48·0
Carbonates as CO ₂	63·8	74·8	81·8	103·2
Possible Combination of Salts in Solution :				
Calcium Carbonate	144·7	161·4	180·0	220·0
Calcium Sulphate	60·7	62·9	64·6	81·6
Sodium Chloride	34·6	35·4	34·5	40·0
Magnesium Carbonate	5·9	7·1	14·8	15·1
pH Value	7·3	7·4	7·4	7·4

Bacteriological reports are as follows :

Caistor R.D.C.	Source	Satisfactory	Un-		Total
			satisfactory		
Private piped supplies :					
Source	126	13			139
Distribution system	58	20			78
Private Wells	3	4			7
		203	52		255

An inquiry was held in May, 1953, about the building of a 6" main from Nettleton to Moortown, the laying of water mains in the Snitterby and Waddingham areas, and the chlorination of supplies at Caistor, Nettleton and Otby (improved conditions only). All these projects were sanctioned and work is now in hand.

The staff employed by the Council on water works maintenance were examined during 1953. Tests of their blood, urine and faeces were made and were found to be entirely satisfactory.

Distribution

During the past year no major schemes of extensions were carried out but a start was made on the new 6" main from Tealby to Market Rasen as part of the improvement scheme of the Market Rasen Water Co. Area. The part carried out was the laying of a length of 6" main from Bully Hill Springs to Tealby village and the building of a 5,000 gallons collecting tank at the source of supply ; this improvement has made it possible for the supply to be passed direct into the existing reservoir at Tealby and the whole of the village is now supplied via the reservoir. A good supply is now available for the entire village, without pumping.

Supplies and Consumption

An adequate supply of water was available at the sources but for a few weeks the pressure at Otby was lower than usual owing to the low winter rainfall. The flow of springs usually commences to increase by the end of November but this year it was January, 1954 before any increase took place. Some difficulty did arise at North and South Kelsey, but the cause of this is inadequate mains and this will be remedied during 1954.

During the year supplies were fixed to 22 new properties, 2 existing ones and 119 new meters were fixed...

The total number of meters installed at the end of the year was 853. The average daily consumption from all sources of supply was 404,000 gallons per day.

SECTION E

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Towns and villages with complete sewerage schemes :—

- (1) Caistor — disposal by land treatment over 7 acres. Standard of effluent — good.
- (2) Keelby — disposal to new sewage disposal works. Standard of effluent — good.
- (3) Tealby — disposal to new sewage disposal works. Standard of effluent — good.
- (4) Middle Rasen — disposal to sewage disposal works. Belonging to Market Rasen U.D.C. in Middle Rasen parish. Standard of effluent — quite good.

Villages with partial sewerage schemes :—

- (1) North Kelsey — disposal by combined "sewer" with land treatment in field of .652 acres. Discharge to dyke — effluent not good.
- (2) South Kelsey — North End disposal by combined sewer with partial treatment in "lagoon." Discharge to dyke — effluent poor.

(N.B.— Work of improvement is contemplated for 1954.)

(3) South Kelsey — South End. New sewage disposal works with complete treatment — built in conjunction with new Council housing estate. Effluent good.

Villages with serious drainage problems :—

- (1) Waddingham. Combined soil and surface water drainage, only partial treatment, discharging to the open stream which runs across the village green. A serious condition particularly when the stream is low.
- (2) Osgodby. Drainage through dykes and by pipe to a ditch to the North of the village where a public health nuisance is created.
- (3) Grasby. Drainage nuisance in two sections — one at end of Vicarage Lane where a group of houses creates serious pollution of a roadside ditch — and the other to the W.S.W. of the area where the drainage pollutes a roadside ditch.
- (4) Bigby. Combined soil and surface water drain discharges partly treated to the beck which runs S. and W. from the village.

Every extension of the water main brings a further problem for the disposal of sewage and, while the Council's active policy on water supply is to be commended, it will inevitably mean an expense in sewerage and sewage disposal in future years.

An enquiry on a new sewage disposal system was held at Waddingham in May, 1953 but the decision was that, at present, the cost was not justified.

The number of premises still requiring a weekly night-soil collection is as follows :—

Parish	No. of pails	Parish	No. of pails
Bigby	18	Brought forward	655
Bishop Norton	37	Osgodby (Usselby) ..	36
Brocklesby	22	Owersby	—
Buslingthorpe	—	Rasen, Middle	83
Cabourne	—	Rasen, West	—
Caistor	69	Riby	3
Claxby	—	Rothwell	—
Glentham	56	Searby-cum-Owmby	16
Grasby	62	Sixhills	—
Holton-le-Moor	—	Snitterby	30
Keelby	134	Somerby	6
Kelsey, North	48	Stainton-le-Vale	—
Kelsey, S. (Moortown)	42	Swallow	—
Kirmond-le-Mire	—	Swinhope	—
Legsby (Bleasby)	15	Tealby (Thorpe)	10
Limber	83	Thoresway	—
Linwood	—	Thorganby	—
Lissington	29	Toft Newton	—
Nettleton	40	Waddingham	92
Normanby-le-Wold	—	Walesby	8
Carried forward	655	Willingham, North	—
		Total	939

The important aspect of this is the number still in Caistor, Keelby and Middle Rasen. Some of these properties are not in the sewerage area but many, particularly at Keelby, could be connected if the owner were willing.

General

Sewer Swabs

Seventeen were used during the year, all of which were negative. The reasons for their use were:—

	No.
(1) to try to discover if the effluent from a Sanatorium contained tuberculosis organisms	5
(2) to try to discover if typhoid organisms were being discharged through sewers, sewage disposal works and streams	7
(3) general test	5

SECTION F

Housing

During the year 84 new houses were built, making 429 built since the end of the war. Three quarters of this total were built by the Council. The waiting list for Council houses is still long but, with increased improvement of private houses making more houses fit, the number is less than previously. The urgent need for Council houses now appears to be mainly in the more urban areas ; some of the smaller villages appear to have an adequate number of Council houses and the list of bona-fide applicants in some cases is very short indeed. No real difficulties were experienced in letting Council houses in any of the parishes and the Council's system of allocating houses — sub-committee of three or more local members with executive authority — appears to function very fairly.

SECTION G (1)

Health and Welfare of Schoolchildren

During the year 608 children were examined in the schools of the Caistor and Market Rasen Districts. The health and nutrition of the children remains fairly satisfactory.

156 children were treated during the year at the school clinic in Market Rasen.

30 of these were adjudged to be of low nutrition or to be suffering from asthenia or lack of energy. This is a considerable improvement on the previous year.

23 cases of bronchitis or allied conditions were treated. Impetigo and scabies were again not noted in any of the children treated. Skin disease comprised only 10 cases of chilblains and warts. 14 children were noted as suffering from some degree of anaemia and treated accordingly. 5 cases of nocturnal enuresis were treated with varying degrees of success or failure. 22 other children requiring fairly prolonged treatment were suffering from otitis media, enlarged tonsils and cervical adenitis.

Amongst the 600 odd children examined 13 had either hernias or herniotomy scars. There were 7 children with appendicectomy scars. 9 out of 14 children tested were adjudged to be educationally subnormal and the appropriate treatment was advised.

Deformities of the feet continue to be the most noticeable defect recorded and these are much more numerous in the older age groups. A number of these children were referred for orthopaedic treatment.

SECTION G (2)

A further deterioration in the state of the teeth of the younger children examined was noted. In the 5+ age group of 244 children examined 16·4% had perfect sets of teeth as against 23·6% in the previous year while the number of carious or treated teeth per head had risen to 5 compared with 3·8 in 1952. This is a considerable rise in the number of carious teeth. In the 10+ age group of 140 children 8·5% had perfect sets of teeth as against 14·2% in the previous year and the number of carious or treated teeth per head was 3·8 as compared with 3·7 in 1952. In the 14+ age group 9·4% had perfect sets of teeth as against 9·7 in 1952 there were 4·25 carious or treated teeth per head as against 4·3.

In my opinion it is probable that the deterioration in the dental condition of the younger children bears some relation to the general lifting of ration restrictions in respect to sugar and sweets.

REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

To the CAISTOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I set out on the following pages details of the work done by the Surveyor's and Public Health Department of the Council during the year 1953. It was my first complete year and, as the report shows, it was a year of considerable activity in all aspects of the Council's work. The facets of the work which showed considerable increase were :—

- (a) maintenance of the approximately 500 Council houses required an increasingly large proportion of the time of the Department.
- (b) the number of building projects — new buildings and extensions — increased and the passing of the new building byelaws called for greater care in supervision.
- (c) the sampling, particularly of water supplies, increased from a total of 158 in 1952 to 612 in 1953. This included the regular testing of the sources of the main supply as well as the routine tests on distribution systems, private wells etc.
- (d) the sampling of ice cream, sampling for bacteriological condition of retailed milks, the use of sewer swabs and quarter sampling for brucella abortus were new ventures for the Department and provided useful information.
- (e) the houseing survey was re-commenced and showed some progress during the year.
- (f) the regulations covering the storage of petroleum spirits were brought up to date and a new installation was built in strict accordance with modern standards.
- (g) the increasing number of applications for housing grants under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1936 and the numerous applications for advice, guidance etc. received from the public.

The staff of the Department remained at the same number throughout the year and I would like to express my appreciation of the work done by each member. In a small authority the efficiency of a Department completely depends on the ability of each member to do his best and the year 1953, while it involved a large amount of work, showed considerable progress.

I would again like to express my thanks to the Council, the Chairman and all the members, the Clerk and his staff, the Medical Officer of Health and to my own staff for the support and encouragement received during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

VINCENT G. HUDSON.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

(1) Town and Country Planning

The Council continued to operate delegated powers from the Lindsey County Council under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 and during the year 1952 planning proposals were received and dealt with. The Planning Register is available on demand for examination by interested members of the public but, so far, no one has availed himself of the privilege.

Of the 192 cases, 191 were approved and one plan was refused on public health grounds — inadequate water supply for a new dwelling. Three cases of breaches of the byelaws were dealt with; two were the subjects of warning letters from the Clerk and the third, by its altered use, ceased to be a building within the byelaws.

(2) Housing and Building Development

General

During the year the Council built 69 houses but towards the end of 1953 the rate at which new sites were being developed had considerably slowed down. The number of applicants for Council houses remained high during the year, but in certain areas, particularly the predominantly agricultural parishes, the list of applicants shrunk considerably and this affected the Council's housing policy to a certain extent. The number of houses improved under the Housing Act, 1949 increased and the nominal rents of some of these made them more attractive to farmworkers than the more highly rented Council houses.

Licensing showed a continued reduction throughout the year and by the end of the year was almost solely concerned with new houses.

(3) TABLE OF PLANS APPROVED DURING THE YEAR 1953 with corresponding details for 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952.

Type of Building	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
1. Council Houses	14	9	15	31	5
2. Private Houses	15	12	18	7	32
3. Additions and Alterations to Houses	44	44	37	91	49
4. Conversions to Houses ..	11	3	3	4	4
5. Farm Buildings	26	26	11	3	9
6. Factories (including alterations and additions)	4	8	1	1	3
7. Temporary Buildings	2	3	12	10	8
8. Licensed Premises (alterations and additions)	6	5	3	—	—
9. Shops (including alterations and additions)	8	5	3	1	1
10. Petrol Stations and Garages ..	2	3	11	7	3
11. Local Authority (sewers and water schemes)	5	6	7	7	—
12. Statutory Undertakings (Electricity Board etc.)	25	37	52	52	31
13. Private Garage	8	9	8	10	30
14. Mineral Workings	—	3	2	1	1
15. Advertisements	—	—	5	16	6
16. Bus Shelters	—	—	—	2	1
17. Store Sheds	—	—	—	—	6
18. Cafe	—	—	—	—	2
19. School	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ..	170	173	188	243	192

(4) New Houses

During the past 24 years, 1930-1953 inclusive, the total number of new houses built in the area (exclusive of Service housing) is 786. Of these 434 have been built by the Council and 352 by private enterprise. The following table is of interest :—

	Private Enterprise	Cl.	P.e.	Rate per year Cl.
Pre-war (1930-1939)	.. 247	80	25	8 (10 yrs.)
Wartime (1939-1945)	.. —	30	—	5 (6 yrs.)
Post-war (1946-1953)	.. 105	324	13	40 (8 yrs.)

(5) The houses completed in 1953 were in the following parishes :

	Private Enterprise	- Caistor R.D.C.
Bishop Norton	.. —	4
Caistor ..	.. 1	—
Grasby ..	.. 1	—
Keelby ..	.. 5	8
Kelsey, South	.. —	9
Legsby ..	.. —	10
Limber ..	.. —	4
Linwood ..	.. —	2
Lissington ..	.. —	4
Nettleton ..	.. —	8
Osgodby ..	.. 1	—
Owmby-cum-Searby	—	2
Owersby ..	.. —	2
Rasen, Middle	.. 2	4
Riby ..	.. 1	4
Sixhills ..	.. —	2
Snitterby ..	.. —	4
Somerby ..	.. 2	—
Stainton-le-Vale	.. —	2
Tealby ..	.. 1	—
Willingham, North	.. 1	—
	—	—
	15	69

(6) COUNCIL HOUSES—NUMBER BUILT IN EACH PARISH

Parish	Total Pre-War	War- time	Post- War	TOTAL	Being built	No. of current applications
Bigby ..	.. —	—	8	8	—	6
Bishop Norton ..	.. —	2	8	10	—	18
Brocklesby —	—	—	—	—	—
Buslingthorpe ..	.. 4	—	2	6	—	3
Cabourne ..	.. —	—	4	4	—	1
Caistor ..	.. 33	4	50	87	7	124
Claxby ..	.. —	—	2	2	—	12
Glentham ..	.. —	2	8	10	—	31
Grasby ..	.. 4	—	4	8	—	11
Holton-le-Moor ..	.. —	—	4	4	—	4
Keelby ..	.. 18	2	28	48	—	70
Kelsey, North ..	.. 18	2	26	46	—	16
Kelsey, South ..	.. 14	2	17	33	—	17
Kirmond-le-Mire —	—	—	—	—	—
Legsby ..	.. 2	2	10	14	—	10
Limber ..	.. 8	—	12	20	—	27

Parish	Total Pre-War	War- time	Post- War	TOTAL	Being built	No. of current applications
Linwood	—	—	2	2	4	13
Lissington	—	—	4	4	—	6
Nettleton	14	—	24	38	—	61
Normanby-le-Wold	—	—	4	4	—	2
Osgodby	10	2	6	18	—	23
Owersby	6	4	8	18	—	8
Rasen, Middle	18	—	20	38	—	27
Rasen, West	—	2	—	2	2	7
Riby	—	—	4	4	—	8
Rothwell	—	4	12	16	—	22
Searby-cum-Owmyb	—	—	4	4	—	11
Sixhills	—	—	2	2	—	—
Snitterby	4	—	8	12	—	11
Somerby	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stainton-le-Vale	—	—	2	2	—	—
Swallow	—	—	4	4	—	19
Swinhope	—	—	4	4	—	8
Tealby	—	—	12	12	—	39
Thoresway	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorganby	—	—	—	—	—	—
Toft Newton	—	—	2	2	—	1
Waddingham	18	2	12	32	—	20
Walesby	—	—	4	4	—	8
Willingham, North	—	—	4	4	—	5
Thornton-le-Moor	—	—	—	—	—	—
Usselby	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—
	171	30	325	526	13	653
	—	—	—	—	—	—

Pre-War.

171 shown above are all houses

Wartime.

30 shown above are all houses

Post-War.

325 shown above are split as follows :—

Houses — 275 Bungalows — 50

(7) Council Houses — General Remarks

The rents of the normal houses during 1953 were as follows :—

Rent Rates vary between

Pre-war houses

All services 15/9 3/1—4/9

Other 13/-

Agricultural houses (1944) .. 15/6 3/6—5/4

Post-war — houses 16/6 4/6—4/10

bungalows 11/3 3/1—3/9

The amount of contribution per dwelling to the Repairs Fund was increased to £10 10s. 0d. per house. This allowed reasonable repairs to be carried out and 114 houses were repainted during the year. This meant that all houses would be painted once every 5 years.

Most repairs are done by direct labour ; the general standard of maintenance of structures and estates is quite high.

Council Houses — Improvements

22 Council houses were improved during the year and the work included the provision of electricity (in one case part installation) and bringing up to modern standards by the provision of 8 hot water boilers, baths, wash-hand basins, new sinks etc. The work is done by agreement with the tenant and is carried out by contract with local builders. It results in an increased rent, for the improved houses have equal facilities with the post-war type of house and, where permissible, a corresponding increase in rent is charged.

22 Council houses remained to be improved at the end of the year ; 9 having no electricity connected to the house and 13 having no hot water system. These are being dealt with as tenants request or on change of tenancy.

(9) Repairs and improvements to private houses

Now that licences are not required it is no longer possible to give accurate details of work being done in the area but the number of plans and the inspections of work carried out suggest that the number remains quite high.

(10) Housing Act, 1949 Section 20

In the Annual Report of 1952 reference was made to this scheme and to the fact that it made good houses excellent but did little to improve the less satisfactory type of house. This has now been amended and poor houses which earlier would not have been considered are now being brought up to modern standards. This slight reduction of standards has helped considerably in this Rural District and more properties are being dealt with than has previously been possible.

The figures for 1953 are :

Improved houses	6
Total cost of work	£2,074
Total amount of contribution ..	£937

The average amount of grant will thus be seen to be approximately 44% of the total cost of the work.

The amount of administrative work involved in this new duty of the local authority is quite considerable; not only do the successful applications require a large amount of time but the numerous enquiries from the public and inspections of properties take up an increasing proportion of the Department's time. There is no question, however, but that it is a useful function and one which benefits the district.

(11) Summary of work under the Housing Act and Public Health Acts during 1953

(a) Dwelling-house inspections.

(1) Total houses inspected for defects	69
(2) Number of inspections made for purpose	147
(3) Number of dwellings found to be dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Number of houses found defective but repairable ..	67

(b) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

(1) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of informal action	54
--	----

(c) *Overcrowding.*

There is no record of overcrowding in the district at the moment. The permitted number of new houses and reconditioned properties are added to the register complied under the Housing Act, 1936.

(12) Abatement of Nuisances

Total number of nuisances investigated during the year ..	61
Total number of nuisances abated as a result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector	33
Details of nuisances are as follows :	
Accumulation of refuse	2
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water	19
Fowls, pigs and other animals	5

Housing Survey

This was started again after a lapse of several years but it was found that only slow progress could be made owing to the amount of other work in the department. However, 212 houses of £16 rateable value and below were inspected in the parishes of Claxby, Kirmond-le-Mire, Limber, Riby, Normanby-le-Wold, Swinhope and Thorganby which fell into the following categories:—

Category	1	2	3	5	Total	
SWINHOPE	6	5	—	—	11	1 Empty Cottage, 4 Council Houses
KIRMOND-LE-MIRE	3	2	7	—	12	2 Empty Cottages
THORGANBY	1	17	13	—	31	4 „ „
CLAXBY	10	6	37	1	54	1 „ „
NORMANBY-LE-WOLD	—	7	9	—	16	3 Empty, 2 Derelict, 4 Council Houses
LIMBER	5	26	57	—	88	1 Empty Cottage, 20 Council Houses
	25	63	123	1	212	

CATEGORIES

1. Houses which are all respects fit for human habitation and provided with modern conveniences.
2. Houses which are in good structural condition or requiring minor repairs and/or which are not provided with all modern conveniences.
3. Houses which require reconditioning in order to render them reasonably fit for human habitation.
5. Houses unfit for human habitation and which are not capable of being made fit in accordance with present day standards at reasonable expense.

Drainage

The Council decided to suspend the operation of the scheme for assistance under the terms of Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936 due to the fact that there were a considerable number of outstanding claims in which the work had been done but which had not been budgeted for. In all a total of £603 10s. 0d. was included in the estimates for 1953/4 to clear off the arrears and no allowance could be made for new work. This caused a little hardship, particularly in Keelby where a new sewerage scheme was completed, but the decision was, it is felt, the right one for it allowed the giving of grants to be put on a proper basis from the 1st April, 1954.

The scheme since its inception in 1945 has helped 246 cases at a total cost of nearly £2,500.

All drainage work to both new and old properties and to new Council houses is tested and examined prior to its approval.

Milk Regulations, 1949

(a) *Designated Milk.* Supplementary licences for the sale of sterilised or pasteurised milk under the provisions of the Special Designation (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949 have been issued or re-issued in eleven parishes. The milk is treated and bottled outside the Council's area.

(b) *Tuberculosis Order, 1938.* 32 samples of milk were taken during the year under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, and in 4 samples positive Tuberculosis organisms were found.

Milk samples are taken as a result of an agreement with the County Council in cases where raw milk is being retailed and, if negative results are obtained, no further action is taken until subsequent routine samples at regular intervals are taken.

(c) *Brucella Abortus.* Tests for Brucella Abortus are carried out on the same sample of milk taken under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

In 2 cases the organisms were isolated from the milk and subsequent quarter samples were taken from the cases involving some 194 samples being taken. In 4 cows the organism was isolated.

List of samples taken during year.

SUMMARY

Purpose	No. taken	Satisfactory	U/S.	
For purity	42	35	7	42
For presence of tuberculosis organisms	36	32	4	36
For presence of brucella abortus ..	194	182	12	194
For presence of typhoid organisms	1	1	—	1
				—
		Total	273	—

In the case of the 4 unsatisfactory samples containing t.b. organisms close liaison was maintained with the County Council and the Ministry of Agriculture Veterinary Surgeon and the matter was dealt with expeditiously.

Food Premises

The following premises are registered in the Rural District :

Bakehouses .. .. ..	..	..	..	7
Fish and Chip Shops .. .. ..	..	..	..	9
Preserved Food preparation .. .. ..	..	..	..	11
Ice Cream (retail) .. .. ..	..	..	..	30

During the year these premises and the public houses were inspected regularly and the standard of cleanliness was good.

11 ice cream samples were taken and one ice lollie. 8 Ice cream samples were grade 1 and 3 grade 2. The ice lollie was a satisfactory sample.

(14) Factories Act, 1937

The list of factories in the district is as follows :

Parishes	Factories			Other Premises
	Mechanical Power With	Mechanical Power Without	Total	
Bigby	—	—	—	1
Bishop Norton	—	1	1	1
Buslingthorpe	—	—	—	1
Cabourne	1	—	1	1
Caistor	6	1	7	4
Claxby	1	—	1	—
Glentham	1	—	1	1
Grasby	2	1	3	—
Holton-le-Moor	—	—	—	1
Keelby	3	—	3	—
North Kelsey	4	—	4	2
South Kelsey	1	—	1	1
Limber	—	1	1	—
Nettleton	5	2	7	2
Normanby-le-Wold	—	—	—	1
Osgodby	5	1	6	1
Owersby	1	—	1	1
Middle Rasen	2	—	2	6
Riby	1	—	1	1
Searby	—	—	—	1
Swallow	—	—	—	1
Swinhope	—	—	—	1
Tealby	2	—	2	1
Waddingham	4	—	4	1
Walesby	2	—	2	1
Willingham, North	—	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—
	41	7	48	31
	—	—	—	—

Table of factories and other premises :

Type of Factory	Factories'			Other Premises
	Mechanical Power With	Mechanical Power Without		
Aerated Water	1	—		—
Agricultural Blacksmith	4	1		—
Baking	2	—		—
Boot Maker-Repairer	1	—		—
Corn and Offal Warehouse	—	1		—
Egg Graders and Packers	1	—		—
Engineering Workshops	2	—		—
Gasworks	1	—		—
Lime Quarrying and Crushing	2	—		—
Motor and Agricultural Engineers	8	1		—
Printers	2	—		—
Provender Millers	2	—		—
Woodworkers	14	4		—
Building and Engineering Operations	—	—		31
Ironstone Mining	1	—		—
	—	—		—
	41	7		31
	—	—		—

The number of inspections carried out during the year was seventy-three.

(13) Public Scavenging

During the year the system had to be completely revised due to the need to give the parish of Stainton-le-Vale a weekly collection. This meant a new schedule and only Caistor and Stainton-le-Vale could be given a weekly collection. The balance of the area is done fortnightly. The collection extends to all hamlets, villages and towns in the area of 119,992 acres, it is done on a regular basis, and bins are collected from the rear of the premises and returned thereto.

Disposal is by tipping, mainly in disused quarries and on waste land, and is carefully watched to see no nuisance is created.

Night soil is collected from 21 parishes in their entirety and from part of two parishes — all on a weekly basis. Arrangements are being made for this collection to be extended so that the majority of the area will be collected weekly. In Caistor, Tealby, Keelby and North and South Kelsey the number needing collection is decreasing but the reduction has not yet had any real effect on the work involved. Only by 100% connection to the sewer, when available, will the nightsoil collection be materially affected.

Private septic tanks, cesspools etc. are emptied at a flat rate of £1 per visit and some other work of emptying is done on a charge basis — the actual cost plus 15% administrative charges.

Disposal is by spreading over suitable land or by utilising one of the Sewage Disposal Works. A record is kept of where each load is discharged.

(15) Rodent Control

The Rodent Operator employed by Brigg U.D.C. carried out the work in Caistor R.D. until 31st March, 1953. The Caistor R.D. then employed its own operator who also carried out such work as was necessary for Market Rasen U.D. The employment of a separate operator was well worth while and meant that more baiting and poisoning work could be done and that some of the survey work could be dealt with.

The official methods of pre-baiting and poisoning were used and the results were as follows :—

Number of premises inspected :

(a) on complaint ..	60
(b) survey ..	70
	130 including re-visits.

Number of premises treated :

(a) Major infestation	29
(b) Minor infestation	69
	98

Block Control ..	5
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The Council purchased a Reliant three wheeler van for transport for this work and a grant of 50% of its cost was agreed to by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

J H Eyre Printer, Market Rasen